

**REMARKS**

This timely responses to the Office Action dated December 19, 2001. Claims 1-8 are active in this application. Previously, claims 2-6 have been indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. Based on the following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the outstanding rejection and it be withdrawn.

Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103

In the Office Action, claims 1, 7 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being unpatentable over U. S. Patent No. US 6,049,322 issued to Yoshikawa, et al. ("Yoshikawa") in view of US 5,973,660 issued to Hashimoto ("Hashimoto") and in further view of US 5,777,610 issued to Sugimoto, et al. ("Sugimoto"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 recites (a) "the plurality of wires comprises a first group of wires for transmitting the first image signal and a second group of wires for transmitting the second image signal", and (b) "the first group of wires are positioned separately from the second group of wires".

In this regard, the Examiner asserted that Fig. 1 of Yoshikawa teaches the first group of wires positioned separately from the second group of wires, as recited in claim 1. Applicants respectfully disagrees with this assertion.

According to Yoshikawa, "The FIFO-E 7 is connected to source drivers 15, 19" and "the FIFO-O 9 is connected to source drivers 13 and 17". Thus, the FIFO-O (odd number) 9 is connected to the first and third source drivers 13, 17 and the FIFO-E (even number) 7 is connected to the second and fourth drivers 15, 19. For this reason, the group of wires extended from the FIFO-E 7 must overlap the group of wires extended from the FIFO-O 9. This is clearly

shown in Fig. 1 of Yoshikawa, in which the group of wires from the FIFO-E 7 connected to the source driver 15 overlapping the group of wires from the FIFO-O 9 connected to the source drivers 13 and 17. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Yoshikawa teaches the first and second groups of wires are overlapping each other, but fails to teach or suggest the first and second groups of wires positioned separately from each other, as claimed.

The secondary references to Hashimoto and Sugimoto fails to cure this deficiency from the teachings of Yoshikawa. Hashimoto is absolutely silent as to the claimed feature of the first and second group of wires positioned separately from each other. Sugimoto is directed to two first flexible wiring boards provided on opposite first and second sides of a display panel while two second flexible wiring boards are provided on a third side of the display panel which adjoining the first and second sides of the panel. Sugimoto is silent as to the arrangement of the first and second groups of wires positioned separately on a printed circuit board. Thus, it would not have been obvious to modify or combine the teachings of the applied references to arrive at the claimed invention recited in claim 1.

Likewise, claims 7 and 8 that are dependent from claim 1 are also patentable over Yoshikawa, Hashimoto and Sugimoto.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claims 1, 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is not viable, and hence solicit withdrawal thereof.

#### Other Matters

On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected claims 2 through 6 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but noted that they are allowable if rewritten in independent form.

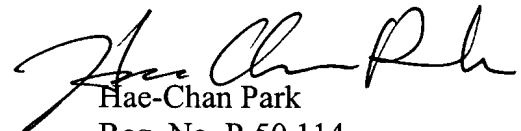
As discussed previously, claim 1 is patentable over the references of record. Therefore, claims 2 through 6 are now allowable.

**CONCLUSION**

All of the stated ground of rejection has been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejection and that it be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, claims 1-8 are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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